

Amendments to the Claims

A complete set of the claims now in the case is set forth below. These claims replace all prior versions of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for removing an organic contaminant from a surface comprising contacting the contaminant with a cleaning composition [comprising] which is essentially free of alkali metal hydroxides, which is not classified as an eye irritant under 16 CFR 1500.42 and which consists essentially of at least 50 wt.% of at least one cleaning member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) organic esters having 6 to 10 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate,
- (b) mixtures containing at least three esters selected from hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, and decyl acetates,
- (c) propylene carbonate, and
- (d) naturally-occurring esters having flash points of greater than 60°F and boiling points greater than 120° F,

[wherein the cleaning composition is essentially free of alkali metal hydroxides] and thereafter causing the contaminant to be removed from the surface by at least one of

- (i) the flow of the cleaning composition itself,
- (ii) the evaporation of the cleaning composition itself,
- (iii) wiping the surface, and
- (iv) washing the surface with a composition consisting of a liquid.

2. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein a contaminant selected from the group consisting of dried latex paint, uncured organic solvent based paint, adhesives, ink, chewing gum, tars, greases, glues, animal fats, vegetable oils, tree sap and other lipophilic soil is removed by contact with the cleaning composition.

3. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 2, wherein the contaminant is dried latex paint.

4. (Amended) The process of claim 2, wherein the cleaning composition comprises at least [10] 80 wt.% cleaning member.

5. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 4, wherein the composition contains at least 10 wt.% of a liquid carrier other than the cleaning member.

6. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 5, wherein the cleaning member is dissolved in an organic solvent exhibiting a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4).

7. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 6, wherein the liquid carrier has an MIR of 2.0 or less.

8. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 6, wherein the composition has a flash point of at least about 100°F.

9. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the composition exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4).

10. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 5, wherein the composition has an MIR of 2.0 or less.

11. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 10, wherein the composition is substantially free of aromatic compounds and alkali metal hydroxides.

12. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the composition contains water.

13-20. (Previously Cancelled)

21. (Amended) The process of claim [1] 2, wherein the cleaning member is an organic ester having 6 to 10 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate.

22. (Previously Added) The process of claim 1, wherein a contaminant selected from the group consisting of dried latex paint, uncured organic solvent based paint, adhesives, ink, chewing gum, tars, greases, glues, animal fats, vegetable oils, tree sap and other lipophilic soil is removed by contact with a cleaning composition containing at least 10 wt.% of a cleaning member selected from organic esters having 6 to 10 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate, the cleaning composition

- having a flash point of at least about 100°F,
- exhibiting a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4), and
- having an MIR of 2.0 or less.

23. (Previously Added) The process of claim 22, wherein the cleaning composition contains at least 50 wt.% of the organic ester.

24. (Previously Added) The process of claim 23, wherein the cleaning composition contains at least 80 wt.% of the organic ester.

25. (Previously Added) The process of claim 24, wherein the cleaning composition contains at least 90 wt.% of the organic ester.

26. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the contaminant is removed from the surface by washing the surface with soapy water or an organic solvent.

27. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the cleaning composition consists of at least 80 wt.% of the cleaning member and at least one additional ingredient selected from the group consisting of colorants, antioxidants, fragrances emollients, thickeners, defoamers, surfactants and liquid carriers.

28. (New) The process of claim 27, wherein the cleaning composition

- has a flash point of at least about 100°F,
- exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4), and
- has an MIR of 2.0 or less.

29. (New) A process for removing an organic contaminant from a surface, the organic contaminant comprising dried latex paint, uncured organic solvent based paint, adhesives, ink, chewing gum, tars, greases, glues, animal fats, vegetable oils, tree sap or other lipophilic soil, the process comprising contacting the contaminant with a cleaning composition which is essentially free of alkali metal hydroxides, has a flash point of at least about 100°F, which exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4), which has an MIR of 2.0 or less and which is not classified as an eye irritant under 16 CFR 1500.42, the composition consisting essentially of at least 80 wt.% of at least one cleaning member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) organic esters having 6 to 10 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate,
- (b) mixtures containing at least three esters selected from hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, and decyl acetates,
- (c) propylene carbonate, and
- (d) naturally-occurring esters having flash points of greater than 60°F and boiling points greater than 120° F,

and thereafter causing the contaminant to be removed from the surface by at least one of

- (i) the flow of the cleaning composition itself,
- (ii) the evaporation of the cleaning composition itself,
- (iii) wiping the surface, and

- (iv) washing the surface with a composition consisting of a liquid.
30. (New) The process of claim 29, wherein the contaminant is dried latex paint.
31. (New) The process of claim 29, wherein the cleaning composition optionally contains a liquid carrier, the liquid carrier having an MIR of 2.0 or less.
32. (New) The process of claim 31, wherein the liquid carrier
- is non-toxic according to 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(2)(i),
 - exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under, and
 - is not an eye irritant under 16 CFR 1500.42.
33. (New) A process for removing dried latex paint from a surface, the process comprising contacting the dried latex paint with a cleaning composition which is essentially free of alkali metal hydroxides, has a flash point of at least about 100°F, which exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4), which has an MIR of 2.0 or less and which is not classified as an eye irritant under 16 CFR 1500.42, the composition consisting essentially of at least 50 wt.% of at least one cleaning member selected from the group consisting of organic esters having 7 to 9 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate, and thereafter causing the contaminant to be removed from the surface by at least one of
- (i) the flow of the cleaning composition itself,
 - (ii) the evaporation of the cleaning composition itself,
 - (iii) wiping the surface, and
 - (iv) washing the surface with a composition consisting of a liquid.
34. (New) The process of claim 33, wherein the organic ester has 7 carbon atoms.
35. (New) The process of claim 33, wherein the organic ester has 8 carbon atoms.
36. (New) The process of claim 33, wherein the organic ester has 9 carbon atoms.
37. (New) The process of claim 33, wherein the composition consists essentially of at least 80 wt.% of the cleaning member.
38. (New) The process of claim 37, wherein the organic ester has 7 carbon atoms.
39. (New) The process of claim 37, wherein the organic ester has 8 carbon atoms.
40. (New) The process of claim 37, wherein the organic ester has 9 carbon atoms.
41. (New) The process of claim 37, wherein the ester is a heptanoate.
42. (New) The process of claim 37, wherein the ester is a propionate.

43. (New) A process for removing dried latex paint from a surface, the process comprising contacting the dried latex paint with a cleaning composition which is essentially free of alkali metal hydroxides, has a flash point of at least about 100°F, which exhibits a Primary Irritation Score of 5.00 or less under 16 CFR 1500.3(c)(4), which has an MIR of 2.0 or less and which is not classified as an eye irritant under 16 CFR 1500.42, the composition consisting essentially of at least 50 wt.% of at least one cleaning member selected from the group consisting of organic esters having 7 to 9 carbon atoms other than isobutyl isobutyrate.